

CLAIMS

1. A patient-support apparatus comprising
a lower frame having a first end, a second end, a first side, and a
5 second side,
an upper frame supported above the lower frame and movable relative
to the lower frame,
a plurality of casters coupled to the lower frame,
a mattress carried by the upper frame, and
10 elevation adjustment pedals adjacent both of the first and second sides
of the lower frame and adjacent only one of the first and second ends of the lower
frame, the elevation adjustment pedals being movable to change the elevation of the
upper frame relative to the lower frame.
2. The patient-support apparatus of claim 1, further comprising
15 drive means for movably supporting the upper frame relative to the lower frame and
the elevation adjustment pedals actuate the drive means.
3. The patient-support apparatus of claim 2, wherein the drive
means comprises at least one hydraulic cylinder.
4. The patient-support apparatus of claim 3, wherein the at least
20 one hydraulic cylinder comprises a first hydraulic cylinder adjacent the first end of the
lower frame and a second hydraulic cylinder adjacent the second end of the lower
frame.
5. The patient-support apparatus of claim 3, wherein the at least
one hydraulic cylinder comprises a vertically oriented hydraulic cylinder.
- 25 6. The patient-support apparatus of claim 2, wherein the drive
means comprises at least one electro-mechanical actuator.
7. The patient-support apparatus of claim 1, wherein the elevation
adjustment pedals comprises three sets of elevation adjustment pedals and each of the
three sets of elevation adjustment pedals comprises a first pedal that when moved
30 raises the upper frame relative to the lower frame, a second pedal that when moved
lowers a first end of the upper frame relative to the lower frame, and a third pedal that
when moved lowers a second end of the upper frame relative to the lower frame.

8. The patient-support apparatus of claim 7, wherein two of the three sets of elevation adjustment pedals comprises a fourth pedal that when moved lowers the first and second ends of the upper frame relative to the lower frame.

5 9. The patient-support apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a shroud that covers the lower frame and the shroud being configured to overhang at least a portion of some of the elevation adjustment pedals.

10 10. The patient-support apparatus of claim 9, wherein the shroud is configured with a storage pan that is situated between the elevation adjustment pedals that are adjacent the sides of the lower frame.

11 11. The patient-support apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a center wheel supported with respect to the lower frame for movement between a first position engaging a floor and a second position spaced from the floor, center wheel deployment pedals adjacent both of the first and second ends of the lower frame, and the center wheel deployment pedals being movable to move the center wheel between
15 the first and second positions.

12. The patient-support apparatus of claim 11, further comprising an elongated shaft coupled to the center wheel deployment pedals, the elongated shaft having a first shaft end adjacent the first end of the lower frame, and the elongated shaft having a second shaft end adjacent the second end of the lower frame.

20 13. The patient-support apparatus of claim 11, wherein at least one of the center wheel deployment pedals pivots about a first axis and at least one of the elevation adjustment pedals pivots about a second axis that is parallel with the first axis.

25 14. The patient-support apparatus of claim 11, wherein at least one of the center wheel deployment pedals pivots about a first axis and at least one of the elevation adjustment pedals pivots about a second axis that is perpendicular to the first axis.

30 15. The patient-support apparatus of claim 1, further comprising caster brake pedals adjacent both of the first and second ends of the lower frame, and the caster brake pedals being movable to brake the casters.

16. The patient-support apparatus of claim 15, further comprising an elongated shaft coupled to the caster brake pedals, the elongated shaft having a

first shaft end adjacent the first end of the lower frame, and the elongated shaft having a second shaft end adjacent the second end of the lower frame.

17. The patient-support apparatus of claim 15, wherein at least one of the caster brake pedals pivots about a first axis and at least one of the elevation
5 adjustment pedals pivots about a second axis that is parallel with the first axis.

18. The patient-support apparatus of claim 15, wherein at least one of the caster brake pedals pivots about a first axis and at least one of the elevation adjustment pedals pivots about a second axis that is perpendicular to the first axis.

19. The patient-support apparatus of claim 1, wherein some of the
10 elevation adjustment pedals are adjacent the first end of the lower frame and further comprising at least one push handle that is coupled to the upper frame above the second end of the lower frame.

20. The patient-support apparatus of claim 19, wherein the at least one push handle is coupled to the upper frame for movement between a use position
15 having a grip portion of the push handle above an upwardly-facing patient-support surface of the mattress and a storage position having the grip portion below the upwardly-facing patient-support surface.